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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

GROUP 1700

MAY 19 2003

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In re Patent Application of

SOTOYAMA et al

Atty. Ref.: 427-53

Serial No. 10/018,793

Group: 1761

Filed: December 21, 2001

Examiner: Unassigned

For: FOOD MATERIAL AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE SAME,
AND CHEESE-LIKE FOOD AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE
SAME

* * * * *

May 16, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Attention is invited to the attached copy of an Official Action mailed March 13, 2003 in the counterpart New Zealand application and a copy of the document cited in it. A completed Form PTO-1449 is also attached.

Official citation and consideration of the attached document is requested. Please return to the undersigned a copy of the attached PTO-1449 with the examiner's initials in the left column [MPEP §609] with the next communication.

Each item of information disclosed herein was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application. This communication was not received by any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than 30 days prior to the filing date of this statement as evidenced by the attached copy of a letter to said person received May 1, 2003. [37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d)].


I hereby certify that each item of information contained herein was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months from the filing date of this statement [see 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (1)].

The filing of an Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability [37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g) & (h)] or that no other material information exists.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____



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